

Francis B. Moran House
(Pakistani Chancery)
2315 Massachusetts Ave., N.W.
Washington, D. C.

HABS No. DC-268

HABS

WASH

211-

PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation
National Park Service
Department of Interior
Washington, D. C. 20240

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
FRANCIS B. MORAN HOUSE
(PAKISTANI CHANCERY)

HABS No. DC-268

WASH, 211-

Location: 2315 Massachusetts Ave., N.W., Washington, D. C.
UTM: 18.322060 .4308900

Present Owner: Pakistan

Present Use: Chancery

Statement of Significance: This stucco building, with conglomerate 18th-century, limestone and terra-cotta details, is a visual accent to an acute-angled street corner. Its plan terminates with a round tower which defines the lot shape and acts as a period set at the end of an important residential block. [Floors as in HABS D. C. Catalog.]

HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. Lot and Square:

The building is located in Square 2517, lot 60 (formerly lots 19 and 20 in Block 11, "Kalorama Heights").

B. Original and Subsequent Owners:

This house was built as a residence for Mrs. F. B. Moran, also known as Jane W. B. Moran (1908-1938), in 1909, by architect George Oakley Totten, Jr., of Washington, D. C. The builder was Arthur Cowsill, and the estimated cost of building was \$62,000.

Subsequently the building was owned by Eleanor Berger McConihe and Arabella A. Macfarland (1938-1940); Eleanor B. McConihe and James O'Donnell, and his wife Alice (1940-1944); the Hebrew National Liberation Fund, Inc. (1944-1950); and the Government of Pakistan (1950-).

City and Telephone Directories list the following:

1911	Francis B. Moran
1912-1913	John Hays Hammond, mining expert
1914-1917	Francis B. Moran
1918	Lord Reading
1919	Vacant
1920	J. W. B. Moran
1921	Francis Moran
1922	Vacant
1923-1924	Francis B. Moran
1925	Vacant
1926-1927	Francis B. Moran
1928-1933	Vacant
1934	Djalalah Ghaffer Khan
1935	Persian Legation
1936-1937	Iranian Legation
1938-1939	Vacant

1940-1943	Iranian Legation
1944	No listing found
1945-1949	Hebrew Committee of National Liberation American League for a Free Palestine
1950	No listing found
1951-1972	Embassy of Pakistan, chancery

The following residents were included in the Elite List: A Compilation of Selected Names of Residents of Washington City, D.C. and Ladies Shopping Guide:

1913	Mr. and Mrs. John Hays Hammond
1914-1917	Mrs. Francis Berger Moran
1918	Sir and Lady Crawford
1927	Mrs. Francis Berger Moran
1929	Mrs. Francis Berger Moran

Known Plans, Drawings, Elevations, etc.:

Projection and site plan. Ink on linen. Scale 1/8" = 1'
Filed with Permit No. 953, September 10, 1908
(See reproduction.)

Front elevation. Blueprint. Scale 1/4" = 1'
Filed with Permit No. 953, September 10, 1908
"Residence for Mrs. F. B. Moran
Mass. Ave. & Decatur Street
George Oakley Totten, Jr., Architect
808 17th St. N.W., Washington, D.C."
(See reproduction.)

North elevation. Blueprint. Scale 1/4" = 1'
Filed with Permit No. 953, September 10, 1908
"Residence for Mrs. F. B. Moran
Mass. Ave. & Decatur Street
George Oakley Totten, Jr., Architect"
(See reproduction.)

Plan of first [second] story.
The American Architect, Vol CVIII (August 11, 1915), plates.
(See reproduction.)

Important Old Views:

Photographs: exterior view, gallery, entrance hall, and music room.
The American Architect, Vol CVIII (August 11, 1915), plates.
(See reproduction of music room.)

Building Dimensions:

Stories: 3 and 1/2 plus attic and basement

Height: 60'-0" to roof ridge

Bays: 3 bays on Massachusetts Avenue
3-bay tower on corner of Mass. Ave. and Decatur Place
5 bays on Decatur Place

Widths: 80'-0" on Massachusetts Avenue
86'-0" on Decatur Place
70'-0" along east party wall

Site Dimensions:

99'-6" on south (Mass. Ave.)
136'-5" on northeast (Decatur Place)
93'-2" on east

Major Alterations:

The doorway from the music room to the conservatory has been altered.

The garage door beneath the conservatory has been replaced with double-hung windows.

PROJECT INFORMATION

This document, made from records donated to the Historic American Buildings Survey by the Commission of Fine Arts, 708 Jackson Place, N.W., Washington, D. C. represents studies of prime, typical, diversified and sumptuous architecture erected primarily between the years 1890 and 1930, when American society and architecture were greatly influenced by the École des Beaux-Arts. The material, originally organized for adaptation to the Historic American Buildings Survey format, was first published in Massachusetts Avenue Architecture, Vol. 1, in 1973, issued by the Commission of Fine Arts, Charles H. Atherton, Secretary; Donald B. Myer, Assistant Secretary; Jeffrey R. Carson, Architectural Historian; Lynda L. Smith, Historian; and J. L. Sibley Jennings, Jr., Architect. Photographs were made for the Commission by Jack E. Boucher, Linwood, New Jersey; J. Alexander, Wheaton, Maryland; and the Commission of Fine Arts Staff. The material, donated December 1973, was coordinated for the HABS documentation in 1978 by Lucy Pope Wheeler, HABS Writer/Editor.

Documentation of this property could not have been achieved without the cooperation of The Embassy of Pakistan, His Excellency Sultan M. Kahn, S. Pk., S. Q. A., P. F. S., Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary.